

# St Briavels Primary School

## Newsletter

*Striving To Be The Best We Can Be*



**No. 72 14th February 2020**

Dear All,

It has been fabulous to hear the feedback from the federation trip for years one, two and three. I am delighted to hear of the fantastic Imam who made such an impression on our children. This was a great opportunity to experience first-hand the learning that has been taking place in school. It has been wonderful for our children to be in a contrasting location and know that they are such great ambassadors for our school with their good behaviour, politeness, curiosity and engagement with the providers in both the mosque and the cathedral.

I am saddened by the ongoing issues with parents parking inconsiderately and urge you to please leave the dropped curb areas free for pedestrians to cross safely. I have contacted our PCSO to support us with this. I know parking is a challenge and our staggered start time is designed to support the parking issue. We are constrained by our location and ask politely that you help us keep all in our school community safe. Thank you to all of you who continue to support us with this, your consideration is very much noticed and appreciated.

I am so pleased with our continued access to whole class music lessons provided by the Gloucester music hub. Our children are making great progress and are really shining. Opportunities such as this really enrich our curriculum and I am delighted that we have been able to take up this opportunity for our children.

It is great to see and hear the impact of our enquiry led approach where children are enjoying exploring the big questions. We have tried to link our writing opportunities to our enquiries as much as possible.

Hope you all have a relaxing break, see you after half term!

**Sarah Helm, Executive Head Teacher,  
The Wye Forest Federation**

### **Absence**

Overall absence (5.0%) was in the highest 20% of all schools in 2019. This means our children are missing significant learning time. Whilst I understand that illness is unavoidable, coughs and colds are generally ok to still come into school with. We obviously have the 48 hour rule to avoid transmission of diarrhoea and vomiting bugs and appreciate you adhering to this. We are monitoring attendance carefully and if you feel there is anything we can do to support you in getting your child here every day on time please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for your continued support.

**Sarah Helm, Executive Head Teacher,  
The Wye Forest Federation**

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## Hall Heating

We would like to apologise for the low temperatures in the hall recently. The room is heated by a ground source heat pump which is not working effectively and it has been difficult to find an engineer who is qualified to repair it. We hope that by the time you read this, the problem will be resolved.

## Parking

Please can we remind all parents not to park across the white lines denoting a dropped kerb in the village. Blocking these areas makes access to the pavements difficult for parents with children in buggies. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Head Lice

We continue to have children coming to school with Head Lice. Please ensure you check your child's hair regularly and treat if necessary.



## Water bottles in school

Please remember children are expected to have only water in bottles. We cannot accept any hot drinks in school due to health and safety guidance. Thank you for your understanding.

## Back Door

The back door has been fixed. Please can we all be vigilant in ensuring all outside doors are kept closed and locked so there is no access to the school during school hours and that at pick up time only the designated exits are open, not classroom doors. The gates are opened at 3pm for sunflowers so doors must be locked.

## Uniform

It has been noticed that some children are coming to school in clothes which are not part of our uniform (including red socks for example). If needed, you can find a selection of second hand uniform hanging in our reception area which you are free to make use of. Donations welcome, payable to the office.

## Menu choices

Please could you ensure your child knows their choice of dinner, sometimes parentpay and register do not match. For example, one menu choice is jacket potato with sausage and veg, there is confusion as children think they are having just jacket potato. Thank you for your help.

Reminder - Toast after half term will be on a payment basis only (no IOU's!), fruit is available.

**World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March this year.**

Please come dressed as your favourite book characters!

**Mrs Sarah Le Templier**  
**(English Subject Leader)**

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## Phonics

Last year our amazing PTA raised a great deal of money to help us purchase a new 'fully decodable' reading scheme. We are waiting for the local English hub to help us replace the scheme with some great books. It is vital that our books match the progress in children's phonic ability. With this in mind, this is an ideal opportunity for us to revamp our approach to phonics. We are very excited to announce we have chosen 'Read Write Inc'.

We have been trialling it for a few weeks and can already see such positive results.

## Read write Inc

*Read Write Inc.* Phonics teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step.

Please visit **ruthmiskin.com** for more information

All staff will be trained in this approach and a parents information session will follow.

**Nadia Arnold**  
Early Years Lead and Phonics

## CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus. You can help too. Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers. This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

Find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

## Wildcats Girls Football ages 5-11: Tuesday Evenings at Tutshill

**Time:** 5.00-6.00pm **Venue:** Tutshill Primary School, NP16 7BJ

**Date:** Starts Tuesday, 10th March **Cost:** £2 per session

Contact Mark Yearley at:

**m:** 07444 436637 **e:** [mark.prostars@gmail.com](mailto:mark.prostars@gmail.com)

Please give feedback about the school at: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

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## February / March Term 2020 — St Briavels Primary School

Please check website for updates!



Day	Date	Class	Event
<b>HALF TERM</b>			
Monday	24/2/20	<b>WHOLE SCHOOL INSET</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Tuesday	25/2/20		
Wednesday	26/2/20	Daisy Class	Parents meeting 3.30pm onwards
Thursday	27/2/20	Reception and Yr 6 Daisy Class	Height and Weight checks—please opt out online if you do not want your child checked Parents Meeting 1.20-3pm
Friday	28/2/20		
Monday	2/3/20		
Tuesday	3/3/20	Speedwell	Soldiers of Gloucester museum
Wednesday	4/3/20		
Thursday	5/3/20	Whole School	World Book Day
Friday	6/3/20		
Monday	9/3/20	Whole school	Parents meetings 1.20-3pm
Tuesday	10/3/20		
Wednesday	11/3/20		
Thursday	12/3/20	Whole school	Parents meetings 3.20pm onwards
Friday	13/3/20		
Monday	16/3/20		
Tuesday	17/3/20		
Wednesday	18/3/20		
Thursday	19/3/20		
Friday	20/3/20		
Monday	23/3/20	Yr 3 and Yr 4	3.30pm Information meeting for PGL trip—see letter
Tuesday	24/3/20		
Wednesday	25/3/20		
Thursday	26/3/20		
Friday	27/3/20		

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# March / April / May Term 2020 — St Briavels Primary School

Please check website for updates!



Day	Date	Class	Event
Monday	30/3/20		
Tuesday	31/3/20		
Wednesday	1/4/20		
Thursday	2/4/20		
Friday	3/4/20	Whole School	2pm, Easter Service, St Briavels Church
<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>			
Monday	20/4/20		
Tuesday	21/4/20		
Wednesday	22/4/20		
Thursday	23/4/20		
Friday	25/4/20		
Monday	27/4/20		
Tuesday	28/4/20		
Wednesday	29/4/20	Parent Forum	Time/location tbc
Thursday	30/4/20	Whole School	Class Photographs
Friday	1/5/20		
Monday	4/5/20		
Tuesday	5/5/20		
Wednesday	6/5/20	Yr 3 & 4	PGL trip to Brecon
Thursday	7/5/20	Yr 3 & 4	PGL trip to Brecon
Friday	8/5/20	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY VE DAY</b>
Monday	11/5/20		
Tuesday	12/5/20		
Wednesday	13/5/20		
Thursday	14/5/20		
Friday	15/5/20		
Monday	18/5/20		
Tuesday	19/5/20		
Wednesday	20/5/20		
Thursday	21/5/20		
Friday	22/5/20	<b>WHOLE SCHOOL INSET</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>

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# Clearwell Pancake Day

## Pancake races & crêpes! 25<sup>th</sup> February

**Bring your own frying pan!**

**£3 per race entry  
which includes a crêpe from  
Isabel's Bakehouse!**

**Junior (4-6)      Intermediate (7-11)  
Senior (12-16)      Adults**

**Prizes for race winners!!**

**4pm – 6pm  
Clearwell Memorial Hall**



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**BAKEHOUSE**  
*Handmade in the Wyre Valley*

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